

SARCASTIC THRUSTS AND SHARP ATTACKS MARK POLLARD-CUMMING JOINT DEBATE

Tax Reform, Fee System, Enabling Act and Other State Issues Discussed at Length.

HENRICO COUNTY CANDIDATE GETS MOST APPLAUSE

Pollard Decries Fee System, Which Opponent Says Is Satisfactory; Believes Enabling Act Should Be Passed, Which Hampton Man Says Is Unconstitutional, and Denies That He Is Advocate of Woman Suffrage—Cumming Seeks to Show by Record of Votes in Constitutional Convention That Pollard Is Not Friend of People, While Latter, Explaining His Reasons, Has No Apologies to Make.

By WILLIAM B. SMITH.
Lynchburg, Va., July 22.—Sharp interchanges marked the joint debate tonight between John Garland Pollard, of Henrico County, and S. Gordon Cumming, of Henrico County, candidates for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General at the primary on August 5. Mr. Pollard received the larger share of the applause from the 1,500 people present.

Tax reform, the fee system, the enabling act and other issues were debated at length. In Mr. Pollard's closing speech he referred with some sarcasm to Mr. Cumming's reference to his record as a lawyer, asserting that he had made twice as much through the practice of his profession as Mr. Cumming had, that the charge that he favored women suffrage was absolutely untrue, and that Mr. Cumming represented in a new role as the champion of Christianity when he attacked his opponent's action in the Constitutional Convention in voting for the word "Christian" from that document. Mr. Cumming had no opportunity to reply to these and other sarcastic thrusts.

Cumming Opened Debate.
Under the agreement arranged by friends of the participants, Mr. Cumming opened in a ten-minute statement. Mr. Pollard followed for ten minutes, after which Mr. Cumming spoke for a half hour, and Mr. Pollard closed in a speech of the same length. George E. Caskey of Lynchburg, presided.

Mr. Cumming opened his declaration of principles by saying that the one point of absolute agreement was that Attorney-General Samuel W. Williams ought not to be re-elected.

"Whatever my views on woman suffrage, the enabling act, or public schools," he said, "they are all mine as a citizen. Should I be elected, my individual views will have no greater weight than those of any other citizen. Even if my friends' views are enacted into law, I shall, if elected, seek to have them enforced."

"I stand for a proper reformation of the assessment of property and the collection of taxes," he believed, the report of Dr. Douglas Freeman and the exhaustive data recently compiled by Auditor Moore give sufficient knowledge of the situation. On the question of the public, an intelligent act should be prepared within two weeks after the General Assembly convenes.

"I do not believe in the preferential primary for President of the United States," he believed that the enabling act, as heretofore presented, is unconstitutional, but that the people have a right to determine by a referendum whether a constitutional amendment should be submitted. Recent developments have led me to believe that it may be wise to create a board of pardons in this State.

Question of Personal Fitness.
"My friend starts out," said Mr. Pollard, "with the proposition that his opinions on public questions have nothing to do with his fitness for office. That is the first question on which we take issue. If fitness has nothing to do with it, why did you challenge me to a joint debate? I am too modest to take my own qualifications, too polite to discuss your deficiencies."

"You have no argument with me that Judge Williams should not be re-elected. As to the equalization of the burden of taxation, we are agreed, so we may lay that aside. On the question of local option or State-wide prohibition, we are so near together that it is twinedee or twinededum. I say the people must decide; you say, yes, but by an amendment to the Constitution."

"My friend says he is satisfied with the election laws; that all they need is to be enforced. He would have expressed no such opinion had he read them. There is no punishment for the man who pays poll taxes for another. The election laws make ballot box stuffing a misdemeanor, punishable with a fine of \$2 and one hour in jail. It should be a felony, and the offender should go to the penitentiary. The elections should be conducted by officers of the law, not by partisan committees, often interested in the outcome. Courts should decide contests, not by partisan committees, which may be swayed by partisan considerations."

"As to the fee system, there are officers doing clerical work receiving four or five times as much pay as the clerk of the court. Elizabeth City County, has not written letters saying that his friends are under obligations to vote for Mr. Cumming."

I want him to say what effort he has taken to reform the fee system. When a fee was introduced during the last session of the General Assembly there was a lobby at Richmond to prevent the people of this State from finding out what their officers received, and I want to know what part he had in that operation. His friends say he went there at his own expense to fight

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S. GORDON CUMMING.

JOHN GARLAND POLLARD.

INDIRECT TAXES TOO HEAVY BURDEN

New Income Law Means Simply More Hardships for People.

VIEWS OF SENATOR BORAH

Believes in Principle, but Thinks Conditions Are Wrong in This Country.

Washington, July 22.—Public discussion of the proposed new income tax came for the first time in the Senate today, when Senator Borah began an analysis of the income tax provision in the tariff bill, and a comparison of conditions in this country with those in England, France and other nations, where immense revenues are obtained by direct taxation.

This was the first break in the program of tariff rate discussion, which began Saturday. It followed the concluding address by Senator Smoot, who for two days had analyzed the new rates and duties of the Simmons-Underwood bill, and had criticized the measure because of its departure from the protective policy, and because of its alleged inequalities.

All Should Feel Its Effects.
Senator Borah's address, to be continued tomorrow, held the close attention of Republicans and Democrats throughout the hour he had the floor. He declared an income tax, to be an effective restraint upon the extravagances of a nation, should be distributed over the small incomes, so every citizen would feel its effects. Because of the great burden of indirect taxes borne by American citizens, however, Senator Borah said, this principle could not be applied in the United States. On the contrary, he urged that the \$3,000 exemption fixed by the Senate committee be raised to the \$4,000 figure.

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MULHALL RETRACTS MOST SERIOUS CHARGE

Admits That He Wronged Former Congressman Watson in Statement.

HE VOLUNTEERS CORRECTION

Indiana Man Not in Congress When Employed to Work for Commission.

Washington, July 22.—Martin M. Mulhall, professed ex-lobbyist for the National Association of Manufacturers, today retracted the most serious charge he has made before the Senate investigating committee.

Mulhall swore yesterday that former Representative James E. Watson, of Indiana, had been employed by private interests in 1909, while he was still a member of the House to work for a tariff commission bill. He testified today that what he had sworn to yesterday was wrong; that Watson was not a member of the House at the time.

Reports that Watson, who is in Washington, was about to ask the District of Columbia grand jury to indict Mulhall for criminal libel, were heard about the investigating room. Mulhall volunteered his retraction after the noon recess. He said he realized his mistake when he saw the date of a tariff convention to be held in Indianapolis in February, 1909.

The committee did not question Mulhall about the discrepancy in his sworn

DENOUNCE STATE FAIR FOR SALE OF LIQUOR

FIRE IN SING SING CAUSES TERROR

Pandemonium Reigns as Prisoners Beat on Doors and Plead for Release.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Cossing, N. Y., July 22.—Fire, starting from a mysterious origin, swept the large workshops in the prison yard of Sing Sing late to-day, creating a panic among the prisoners in the cell-house, completely destroying four of these structures, and causing a damage of at least \$100,000. It is believed that a prisoner who escaped Saturday and who is believed to be hiding within the walls, started the fire by smoking.

The flames were discovered shortly before the hour when the men quit work for the day. As soon as the alarm was given the 1,400 inmates of the prison were marshaled into lines and locked in their cells. Every guard and attendant at the place was then put to work fighting the fire, which, in spite of their efforts, spread quickly.

As the thick heavy smoke filled the passageways the prisoners became panic-stricken, thinking the prison proper was on fire. Pandemonium reigned as they shouted and banged on the doors of their cells, begging to be set free.

The village fire department came to the assistance of the wardens and staff, and with this aid the fire finally was gotten under control. For a time, however, the large lumber yard back had become ignited the entire institution would have been in danger.

In addition to the four workshops, a large ice plant and several smaller auxiliary buildings were destroyed. Embers from the fire were carried by the wind far from the prison, setting fire to a barn owned by I. T. Washburn, nearly an eighth of a mile away.

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Baptists Advised to Boycott It Till It Is Made "Dry."

DR. M'DANIEL OPPOSES

Dover Association Also Petitions for Passage of Enabling Act.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Ashland, Va., July 22.—An appeal to the voters of Virginia to support only those candidates for public office who favor the destruction of the liquor traffic in Virginia, was earnestly made to the next General Assembly, to pass the enabling act, and denunciation of the State Fair for its sale of liquor, together with the request that all Baptists boycott the fair.

The report on temperance was read by W. N. Lawson, chairman of the committee, and was as follows:

"The cause of temperance has experienced a steady growth in recent years. Time was when many of our church members used intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and when the social glass was a custom in good families. To-day the habit is being inculcated by the members of the church, for the foundation of all temperance measures is the conviction and practice of the members of the church. The preaching of temperance from the pulpit comes to naught unless the members practice temperance in their homes and social life."

"We believe that the churches of our association are free from the charge of having members in their fellowship who are in the liquor business, and we hope to see the time speedily come when these churches will be equally free from the charge that some of their members are given to the social glass."

"An effective way to prevent the spread of intemperance is by legislation. When the State licenses the liquor traffic, it becomes a party to the evil; the people who vote for license are in partnership with the liquor business. We urge upon our people the duty of supporting those men for public office who favor the destruction of this foe to the home, the church and State."

"Our prayers, sermons and resolutions amount to little if, when a moral issue is involved, we fail to support those candidates who favor temperance measures. Believing that the State is a unit of government and that the people of this Commonwealth have a right to vote upon the question of license or no license, and believing further in the inherent right of the citizens of this Commonwealth to petition, we respectfully and urgently request the next Legislature to pass the enabling act."

State Fair Denounced.
"We furthermore declare our conviction that the State Fair is not a proper place for the sale of liquor, and we protest against the action of the court in granting a license for such a purpose, and while not pretending to dictate to our people, do most earnestly advise them not to patronize the State Fair until the fair authorities cease to desecrate the grounds by the sale of intoxicating beverages."

This report was liberally applauded. Dr. McDaniel immediately moved to amend the report by striking out the last clause of the last sentence, which advised against attending of the State Fair as long as liquor was sold on the grounds.

Rev. D. H. Hepburn, of the Anti-Saloon League, opposed the motion, and Dr. McDaniel spoke in favor of it. "The State Fair is a great institution," he said, "and we do not believe in threats and boycotts."

"No other Baptist association has threatened a boycott. Methodist district conferences have done so, but

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ATTEMPT IS MADE TO FORCE ACTION IN MEXICAN CRISIS

Fall Demands That Senate Enunciate Strong Policy.

CONDEMNNS DELAY AT COST OF LIVES

Delicacy of Situation Is Realized, and Other Senators Counsel Full Consideration Before Step Is Taken Which May Plunge Country Into War With Mexico.

Washington, July 22.—An attempt by Senator Fall, of New Mexico, to force the Senate to enunciate a strong policy of protection for American citizens in foreign countries to-day precipitated a lively debate, which demonstrated appreciation on the part of the Senators of the gravity of the Mexican situation and the necessity for a determined stand by the United States.

The policy of the delay on the part of the Taft administration was emphatically denounced by Senator Fall and blamed by him for the present critical situation, which, he said, could have been prevented by a sterner national policy. This declaration was approved by Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, who expressed disappointment that the new President and new Secretary of State had not inaugurated a different Mexican policy.

Its Seriousness Realized.
That the delicacy of the situation was keenly appreciated was evinced by the insistence of many Senators, led by Senator Bacon, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, that any proposed pronouncement be deliberately and seriously considered before being acted upon.

Sensor Fall called up his resolution to full protection of the "constitutional rights" of American citizens in foreign nations. That the resolution was directed against Mexico, Senator Bacon declared, could not be concealed, and in moving to refer it to the Foreign Relations Committee he asserted that this was "very serious things sometimes, and this is one of them."

Sensor Works, of California, asserting the Fall resolution constituted a declaration that the United States was prepared to make war with Mexico if Americans there were not protected, urged that no hasty action be taken. Senator Fall averred that every act of his had been prompted with the desire to prevent war, and that he had vainly sought to bring the former administration to a realization of the fact that a stern Mexican policy would have prevented rather than have precipitated war. The American policy of delay in Mexico was responsible, he declared, for the present critical situation, one which he intimated might yet demand intervention.

Action on the resolution to-day was prevented, and it went to the calendar for the future disposition.

Senator Fall, aroused by what he termed intimations from Senators that he was seeking to precipitate war with the resolution, made a stirring reply.

"My sole issue," said he, "throughout this debate has been that the former administration has been to prevent war with Mexico, and the last administration to realize the situation in Mexico and to act so as to prevent war. But matters have dragged on until now we are told the situation is so delicate that we should not make a declaration of this principle. The Senator from New Mexico is not responsible for conditions in Mexico. It is the delay, the failure of the administration to act, the failure of the administration to carry out its warnings to the people; that the present

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TRAPPED IN CAGE, PERISH IN FLAMES

Thirty-Five Prisoners Burn to Death in Their Antiquated Jail.

Jackson, Miss., July 22.—Trapped by flames in the second story of an antiquated convict cage, the first floor of which was used to store grain, and molasses, thirty-five negro prisoners were burned to death at the Oakley convict farm, twenty miles from here, late last night.

Everything was in the fire's favor. The flames rapidly destroyed the only stairway leading to the second floor, the prisoners frantically tore at the heavy bars that covered the windows, but to no avail. Their screams brought guards and other prison attendants, but the flames drove back members of the rescue party, and the negroes, one by one, fell back into the flames and perished.

Everything was in the fire's favor. The building, a two-story structure of lumber taken from a discarded penitentiary, there was no fire-fighting apparatus at the farm, and the first floor was filled with inflammable matter.

Farmers living nearby hurried to the jail to help the fire-fighters, but they were of no assistance, as the fire burned too rapidly.

The convicts all worked in the cotton fields of the State farm, and were housed in the cage at night. Among them were some desperate criminals, serving long sentences.

The fire started under the stairway on the first floor. The origin has not yet been determined.

The prisoners were ordered to their bunks at 9 o'clock, as usual, and after that time there was no light in the part of the building they occupied, according to officers in charge. It was not until more than two hours after midnight that they were surrounded by smoke and flames. News of the tragedy was first received in Jackson by telephone this morning.

FIFTY LIVES TAKEN WHEN FIRE SWEEPS CLOTHING FACTORY

Hospitals Filled With Injured, of Whom at Least Dozen Will Die, Taken From Ruins of Binghamton, N. Y., Building.

VICTIMS CAUGHT BY FLAMES ARE CHIEFLY WOMEN AND GIRLS

Twenty-Two Bodies Are Recovered, and It May Be Several Days Before Smoking Debris Is Cleared Away and Full Extent of City's Greatest Disaster Is Known—Catastrophe, Believed to Have Been Caused by Cigarette, Comes With Such Suddenness That Escape of Workers Is Cut Off—Employees Hear Signal for Fire Drill, Think They Are Being "Fooled," and Marshal in Line Slowly.

Binghamton, N. Y., July 22.—Fifty persons were killed, according to late estimates, and as many injured, a dozen of them mortally, in a fire which swept the four-story building of the Binghamton Clothing Company this afternoon. The victims were chiefly women and girls.

Early to-night twenty-two bodies had been recovered. In the city hospital and in private institutions are thirty injured. Two-score persons are known to have escaped, as if by a miracle, from the building, which burst into flame like a tinder box and became a roaring furnace almost in no time after the first alarm was sounded.

About 125 persons were in the factory when the fire broke out. Those unaccounted for, or most of them, are believed to be still in the red hot ruins of the structure.

Around the scene of the catastrophe, the greatest this city has ever known, thousands to-night watched the rescuers work in the glare of three big search lights, many in the great throng being restrained only by the closely drawn police lines from rushing into the ruins to seek the bodies of relatives or friends.

Occasionally Body Is Dug From Fiery Pit.
Many streams of water are being poured into the fiery pit, which a few hours ago was the cellar of the burned establishment. As the ruins were cooled slightly, from time to time in a spot upon which the streams were centered, men went forward to dig as long as human endurance would allow them to work. Occasionally a body was found.

It will take at least two days, the authorities believe, before the cellar can be cleared and the whole truth known.

The big outstanding fact of the catastrophe is its suddenness. In this the disaster bears a strong resemblance to the Triangle Waist Company holocaust, in New York City, where 147 lives were lost, when the inflammable material upon which the employees were working and the waste littering the floors blazed up with inconceivable rapidity and sent the imprisoned workers jumping from the windows to their death. The parallel here falls only in the lesser height and different construction of the building, and in the length of the list of dead and injured. Another resemblance to the New York disaster is that the fire to-day is believed to have been started by the careless throwing of a cigarette or match. In the tragedy of this afternoon, the deadly burst of flame followed quickly after the alarm. There was little opportunity to use ordinary, or even emergency, means of escape. Fire drills had been carried on regularly, so frequently, in fact, that the employees had found them monotonous.

The building was equipped with fire escapes and an automatic alarm system. The alarm tinkled at 2:30 o'clock. Mrs. Reed B. Freeman, wife of the proprietor, telephoned to the Central Fire Station. The usual apparatus for a first still alarm responded. Some excited person at Warren and Shenango Streets, four blocks away, saw a burst of flames and pulled the box there. The rest of the companies answered this alarm.

That meant ten minutes delay for part of the firemen. But even those who arrived first were unable to do anything. The first puff of flames was hardly discerned before the fire leaped along the staircases and walls and up the elevator shaft along the floors and ceilings. There was a roar, front and rear, and the flames belched forth clear across Wall Street, on which the building fronted, withering the shade trees on the river bank and scorching a building across an alley at the rear.

Flames Too Quick for Panic-Stricken Victims.
After this fierce blast, the fire seemed to burst into every part of the building. On the fire escapes, girls, women and men were clustered, and inside the building were waiting to get onto the iron ladders. But the flames were too quick for them.

The slow starting of the fire drill may have contributed to the disaster. The delay in getting all the firemen to the scene may have been responsible for part of the loss of life. But persons who were early on the scene said that these things did not materially affect the result.

When the firemen arrived in response to the telephone alarm they were unable to get within 200 feet of the burning building, and the ends of the streams from their hose were turned into steam without effect upon the fire.

Life nets and extension ladders were equally useless. There was no chance for those caught on the upper floors, except the last resort to jumping, and this many took, while others fell, shriveled and crumpled with the heat.

Scarcely one of the survivors was able to give a connected account of what took place on the upper floors of the factory when the employees there—mostly women and girls—realized that the fire was no false alarm, and that death was sweeping upon them.

The coolest among them recalled that women fainted by dozens, and that the scene was one of indescribable confusion. Some of the men employees apparently kept their heads and tried their best to rescue the imprisoned women.

The fire escapes were not enough to hold all who rushed to the exits, and there was a dash for windows, the trapped victims shrieking from pain as the flames swept upon them from behind and seared their bodies.

Then from windows and fire escapes bodies began falling rapidly. The building was four stories high, and many who jumped, even from the topmost floor, escaped with their lives, although most of them were maimed. Most of the women operators were working on the fourth floor, and it was among these that the loss of life and injury was greatest.

Hospital Does Work With Marvelous Rapidity.
As soon as the first of the fire victims were brought to the hospital convalescents among the other patients set to work tearing bandages, and physicians saved every available board for splints to bind up burnt limbs. Fathers Ellis, Walsh and McLoughlin, together with Rev. Mr. Francis, came to offer spiritual consolation to the desperately injured. With the injured and the dying lying all about the hospital, doctors and nurses worked with amazing rapidity and coolness. Scarcely an hour after the fire all the patients there had received medical attention. Most of them were badly burned.

One of the most pathetic cases at the hospital is that of Miss Ruth Crotty, who is slowly dying with a broken spine. She has been in Binghamton one week, having come here from Port Jervis to work with her two sisters, neither of whom, so far as can be learned, escaped from the fire.

"When I first heard the alarm," said Miss Crotty, "I jumped from my chair and started for the stairs, but when I reached them they were so crowded with other operators that I could not get down, and in another instant the whole floor was ablaze."

Miss Crotty jumped from a window.

Mary McDonough, an employee, said she was on the fourth floor when the fire broke out. The employees on that floor thought it was a fire drill and marshalled in line slowly. When the flames burst upon them many fainted, and a panic ensued.

"It was all over in a flash," she said. "I do not know how I got to the street, but I think I fainted and was carried off by some one."

Esther Raskin, nineteen years old, jumped from the second story, suffering a compound fracture of the leg. She also was badly scarred by the flames. In broken English, she told her story.

"When the alarm was sent in everybody thought they were 'fooling' us, because they did it two weeks ago. When I heard everybody shouting, 'Fire!' and saw them running, I ran down the stairs. When I reached the

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